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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STR-08 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SPC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 SWF-02

OMB-01 OIC-04 SAM-01 PRS-01 PA-04 USIA-15 SS-20 NSC-10

L-03 FEA-02 INT-08 SCI-06 DRC-01 /217 W
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R 271110Z FEB 74
FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1911

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, OECD
SUBJECT: DATES AND AGENDA FOR NEXT OECD MINISTERIAL COUNCIL; HEADS DEL DISCUSSION FEB. 26

REF: A.) USOECD 2978; B.) STATE 37365

1. SUMMARY. HEADS DEL FEB. 26 HAD INCONCLUSIVE DISCUSSION OF DATES AND AGENDA FOR NEXT MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING. ALL DATES WEEK OF MAY 13 RAISED PROBLEMS FOR ONE OR MORE DELS. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA PROPOSED BY SECGEN (REF A) WAS BRIEF BUT NO IMPORTANT OBJECTIONS WERE RAISED. SECGEN WILL BE IN CONTACT WITH DELS IN COMING DAYS WITH HOPE OF REACHING AGREEMENT ON DATES AND AGENDA SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. ACTION REQUESTED: EARLY INSTRUCTIONS ON US PREFERENCES FOR DATES AND AGENDA OF NEXT MINISTERIAL COUNCIL. END SUMMARY.

2. DATES. CANADIAN AND JAPANESE DELS SAID ANY DAYS WEEK OF MAY 13 WOULD CAUSE SERIOUS PROBELEMS FOR THEM
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BECAUSE OF PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED JAPANESE-CANADIAN COOPERATION MEETING IN TOKYO MAY 14-15 INVOLVING FOUR

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OR FIVE MINISTERS FROM EACH SIDE. JAPANESE DEL SUGGES-
TED SECGEN TRY TO FIND SUITABLE DATE FOR MINISTERIAL
WEEK OF MAY 20. EC DEL SAID ANY DATES WEEK OF MAY 13
WERE ACCEPTABLE BUT NOTED THAT EC MINISTERS OF FINANCE
WERE SCHEDULED TO MEET WEEK OF MAY 20. FRG DEL SAID
THAT FEDERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD MEET MAY 15 TO ELECT NEW
FRG PRESIDENT, REQUIRING PRESENCE OF ALL GERMAN
MINISTERS IN BONN THAY DAY. HE THOUGHT FRG COULD
AGREE TO EITHER MAY 13-14 OR MAY 16-17 FOR MINISTERIAL.
SECGEN SAID THAT NO WEEK BETWEEN NOW
AND MID-JUNE WAS COMPLETELY FREE OF OTHER MEETINGS THAT
MIGHT CONFLICT WITH OECD MINISTERIAL. HE UNDERTOOK TO
CONSULT INFORMALLY WITH DELS IN COMING DAYS WITH VIEW
TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON DATES NEXT WEEK.

3. AGENDA. SECGEN BRIEFLY REVIEWED PROPOSALS HE HAD
MADE FOR AGENDA AT HEADS DEL MEETING FEB. 1 (REF A).
ON ENERGY ITEM (PARA 2C, REF A), HE SAID ENERGY
POLICIES WOULD BE REVIEWED IN LIGHT MANDATES GIVEN TO
OECD AT 1972 AND 1973 MINISTERIAL MEETINGS. SECRETARIAT
WOULD PREPARE DOCUMENTATION ON SEVERAL POLICY ASPECTS
REQUIRING URGENT CONSIDERATION AND COOPERATIVE
DECISIONS. BELGIAN DEL (OCKRENT) MADE SINGLE IMPOR-
TANT COMMENT ON AGENDA, SUGGESTING THAT ITEM ON
DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION BE SUBSUMED UNDER FIRST ITEM,
GENERAL ECONOMIC POLICY ISSUES (REF A). THIS WOULD
REDUCE NUMBER OF ITEMS ON WHICH MINISTERS WOULD FEEL
OBLIGED TO MAKE GENERAL STATEMENTS AND THEREBY INCREASE
AMOUNT OF TIME FOR CONSTRUCTIVE DEBATE AND CONSIDERA-
TION OF MINISTERIAL DECISIONS. SECGEN CHARAC-
TERIZED OCKRENT'S SUGGESTION AS CONSTRUCTIVE AND
AGREED TO REFLECT ON IT. FRENCH DEL SAID THAT GISCARD
D'ESTAING HAD ALREADY AGREED TO SECGEN'S ORIGINAL
PROPOSAL OF APRIL 24-25 FOR MINISTERIAL. HE COULD NOT
SAY HOW GOF WOULD REACT TO MAY DATES. HE NOTED THAT
HE HAD RECEIVED NO REACTION FROM GOF TO SECGEN PRO-
POSALS FOR AGENDA AND ASSUMED THEY CAUSED NO SERIOUS
PROBLEMS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING CHAIRMAN, MEETING AGENDA, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974OECDP04953
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974026/aaaaaeyz.tel
Line Count: 105
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A.) USOECD 2978; B.) STATE 37365
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 APR 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <10 JUN 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DATES AND AGENDA FOR NEXT OECD MINISTERIAL COUNCIL; HEADS DEL DISCUSSION FEB. 26
TAGS: EGEN, OECD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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